

REMARKS

There remains pending in this application claims 1-10, 15, 16 and 21, of which claims 1, 10 and 16 are independent. No claims have been added or cancelled.

Applicants have amended each of claims 10 and 16 in the same manner. Specifically, in each case Applicants have amended the wherein clause to recite that the pinch roller contacts the conveying roller at a position of the conveying roller offset towards the recording section. Applicants respectfully submit that such amendments in no way affect the allowability of the claims.

Applicants note that claims 10 and 16 were placed in condition for allowance by amending each of those claims to incorporate the subject matter of claim 14 and the above amendments in no way diminishes that incorporation of patentable subject matter. In addition, each of claims 10 and 16 continue to recite the allowable subject matter identified in the Official Action mailed on June 10, 2005, and more specifically, continue to recite the guide member being located in the first position such that it guides the recording medium to the nip from a position higher than the nip of the conveying roller and the pinch roller.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully request entry of the above amendments as they improve upon the form of the claim without in any way affecting its allowability over the prior art. Favorable consideration and entry of the amendment is respectfully sought.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Stahl', written over a horizontal line.

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